



Teacher Ranger Teacher- Professional Development Opportunity Interpretation and Education

Gulf Islands National Seashore is looking for 12 dynamic Science, History, or Language Arts teachers from local elementary, middle, and high schools



Professional Development Opportunities (6 in FL and 6 in MS)

- \$3,000 stipend.
- 3 hours of graduate credit in education.
- Enjoy boating, fishing, ecological restoration, and historical inquiry.
- Learn to dress in living history attire and fire Civil War Era weaponry.

Contact Susan Teel at susan_teel@nps.gov or 850-934-2618, **DUE** April 19th

The Teacher Ranger Teacher program is a professional development opportunity for K-12 teachers to spend the summer acquiring new skills in experiential learning through a program provided by a partnership between the National Park Service (NPS) and the University of Colorado Denver (CU Denver). The participants spend six weeks at Gulf Islands National Seashore learning about the park's natural and cultural resources. Teachers will have the opportunity to learn to; dress in period appropriate attire, fire replica Civil War era muskets, pull sein nets in the sea grass beds and identify sea life, kayak and snorkel the clear sparkling emerald waters of the Santa Rosa Sound. Teachers will develop a major educational project and participate in an online graduate course from CU Denver. The goal of the program is to train teachers in the resources and themes of the NPS so that they can return to their schools in the fall and incorporate their new skills into their classroom activities. NPS aims to especially reach students from underserved schools and districts by recruiting teachers from Title 1, urban schools to participate in the Teacher Ranger Teacher program.

Park Name: Gulf Islands National Seashore

Mailing Address: 1801 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze, FL 32563
3500 Park Road, Ocean Springs, MS 39564

Park Contact: Susan Teel

Park Contact Email Address: susan_teel@nps.gov

Park Phone Number: 850-934-2618

Projected Dates of Detail: June 19th – July 27th, 2017

Housing Availability: N/A

Stipend: \$3000.00 upon completion of program and graduate course requirements

Graduate Credit: 3 graduate credit hours through University of Colorado Denver

Program Hourly Requirements: Total of 240 hours of effort; 160 hours of major educational project, 45 hours of online coursework, discussion, course readings, 25 hours of NPS operational experiences.



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Additional Information:

Gulf Islands is the largest of the national seashores, stretching 160 miles from Cat Island, Mississippi to the eastern tip of Santa Rosa Island, Florida. Its sparkling waters and beautiful sugar white beaches make it the crown jewel of the Gulf's Emerald Coast. The Seashore encompasses historic forts, coastal forests and marshes, and wilderness islands. Gulf Islands is home to four species of sea turtles, over 300 species of birds, and you can spot pods of bottlenose dolphins from the beaches. The climate is sunny and warm most of the year.

Two duty stations areas are available, one in Pensacola Florida and the other in Ocean Springs, Mississippi. Park headquarters is located in Gulf Breeze, Florida, across the bay from Pensacola and in Davis Bayou area, located in Ocean Springs, Mississippi just east of Biloxi.

The intended impact of this program is to attract and engage underserved students by providing a professional development opportunity for their teachers. A team of 6 teachers in Florida and 6 teachers in Mississippi (total of 12 teachers) will be hired to collaboratively develop a suite of curriculum based educational modules which incorporate interdisciplinary approaches to achieve Common Core State Standards. The project will draw on the expertise of local teachers to develop lesson plans and activities which build on STEM, history, social studies, culture, and language arts to develop curriculum based field trips for their students. By incorporating an interdisciplinary approach, we anticipate the final product will be attractive to the broadest range of teachers in various subject disciplines.

Each teacher will develop a single interdisciplinary curriculum based module, each module will include 2 in class pre-field trips lesson plans, 3 on site (inside the seashore) activities, and 2 post field trip lesson plans. The final suite of modules for Florida and Mississippi will each include:

- Elementary School modules
 - 1-primarily science
 - 1-primarily history
- Middle School Modules
 - 1-primarily science
 - 1-primarily history
- High School Modules
 - 1-primarily science
 - 1-primarily history

The seashore is seeking teachers with strong skills in the development and application experiential education and expertise in the development of curriculum based lesson plans and activities. Applicants should have strong capabilities to communicate orally and written forums, to work as a member of a team, and to work independently.

The selected Teacher Ranger Teachers will interface with park staff and be immersed in learning about the seashore. On Monday of each week, the teams in Florida and Mississippi will video conference to review and report out on individual progress. On Friday of each week TRTs will work from home or in the park's auditorium to complete the graduate level on-line course work with Colorado University, Denver (approximately 45 hours). During the final week, age children from local summer camps will be invited to pilot the TRT curriculum modules.



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Application

Due April 19, 2017 – emailed to **susan_teel@nps.gov**

Applicant Name:

Home Address:

Home/Cell Phone:

Email Address:

Applicant's School Name:

School District/State:

School Address:

School Phone:

Grade level and subject(s) taught:

1. **Do you teach at a Title I school?** (please circle) No Yes If yes, what percentage of your students qualify for Free and Reduced-Price Lunches?
2. **Can you commit to approximately 4-6 weeks of time (230-240 hours) during the summer season (May-August, depending on park needs)?** (please circle) No
Yes
3. **Describe your most effective unit or lesson plan that actively engaged students in learning. Why was it successful?**
4. **Why do you want to participate in Teacher Ranger Teacher?**
5. **How will you use your TRT experience to enrich your classroom teaching and create opportunities for your students to connect to the National Park system?**
6. **How will you share information and skills acquired through this experience with your school and district colleagues?**
7. **Describe your familiarity and experiences with local, state or national parks.**

Please provide information for two professional references:

Reference 1:

Name:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Relationship to applicant:

Reference 2:

Name:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Relationship to applicant: